



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE TWENTIETH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION

IT NOW looks as if there is to be a worthy delegation from the American group of the Interparliamentary Union to the Twentieth Conference, to be held in Vienna August 28, 29, 30. The conference is to be held in that city upon the invitation of the Austrian group, acting with the consent of the government of the republic. The meetings of the conference are to be held at the Palace of the Federal Parliament (Parlaments-Gebäude). Among the subjects announced for discussion are: the Revision of the Constitution; the Rights of Racial Minorities; the Work of the Washington Conference and the Continuation of That Work with a View to the Economic Reconstruction of the World; the Reduction of Armaments; Universal Obligatory Military Service; Parliamentary Control of Foreign Policy; Economic and Financial Questions; Colonial Mandates.

The Austrian Government, through its embassy in Washington, has already expressed the hope that the American Congress may send a large delegation to the conference. We understand that the condition of the Austrian finances makes it necessary for the Union itself to pay the expenses of the conference. The Swedish group is to turn over from the sum saved on the grant generously made by the Swedish Government for the Stockholm Conference a year ago some 13,000 Swiss francs toward the expenses in Vienna. As in the case of the Geneva Conference in 1912, the Council of the Union purposes to meet a part of the expenses by requesting the payment of a subscription from all members taking part in the conference. This means that the American delegates will be required to pay 40 Swiss francs each. If the members taking part in the Vienna Conference contribute individual subscriptions, there ought to be no trouble in financing the meeting, especially since the Austrian Government is to supply the staff of reporters, translators, and the like. Members paying their subscriptions will be entitled to take part in the deliberations of the conference and in the official banquet, and to receive all preliminary documents and the final report of the conference.

The work of the Interparliamentary Union, particularly with reference to the International Court of Arbitration at The Hague, and to other matters of international importance, has been worth while—in some instances conspicuously so. Only members or ex-members of national parliaments are entitled to membership in any group of the Union. The American group, with Senator William B. McKinley, of Illinois, as its President, and Representatives Theodore Burton, Andrew J. Montague, and Senator Thomas Sterling among its

officers, is in a position to render important service to the thinking, not only of Europe, but of America, on matters of international import. No doubt the American group will render such a service.

THE WASHINGTON TREATIES ABROAD

THE ONLY governments that have ratified the Washington treaties to date are China and the United States. Over three months have passed since the treaties and resolutions of the Conference on the Limitation of Armament were ratified by the United States Senate. Naturally, inquiries have arisen and no little curiosity is expressed over the seeming lack of interest in Britain, France, Japan, and Italy. Fortunately, we are now informed by the Associated Press that Lord Lee of Fareham introduced, under date of June 14, in the House of Lords, a bill to make effective the two treaties signed in February—one for the limitation of naval armament, the other for the protection of neutrals and non-combatants at sea and to prevent the use of noxious gases and chemicals in war. We are informed that the bill outlines the restrictions on the building of warships and the legal proceedings to be instituted against offenders, and defines the extent of the act to include the whole of the King's dominions, including the Irish Free State when constituted. We understand that the bill provides further for the extension of the provisions of the act to any British protectorate by an Order-in-Council.

A special cable to the *New York Times* informs us also that the naval treaty and the four-power treaty will shortly come before the French Deputies and Senate for ratification. Evidently, the delay in France has been due in part to a feeling, more or less general in that country, that there should be a reservation in the treaty as to naval reduction. But, if Stephane Lauzanne can be accepted as an authority, there is a prevailing impression in France that the present naval treaty, if adopted, can mean only the loss of a hypothetical fleet which France, as a matter of fact, could never have had. This writer recently stated in the *Matin* that "the only people who will lose by ratification of the treaty are the armor-plate makers."

Japan, it is reported, will ratify the treaties soon.

As for Italy, we are informed that Senator Salvatori Orlando, a ship-builder, has presented an interpolation in the Italian Senate, also under date of June 14, inquiring if the ministries of foreign affairs and marine do not believe it necessary to communicate the Washington treaty to the Italian Parliament.

There have been certain evidences that our European friends have been making use of the American desire to get these treaties out of the way, possibly with the hope